



United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit
125 South Grand Avenue
Pasadena, California 91105

Raymond C. Fisher
United States Circuit Judge

April 23, 2009

Telephone: (626) 229-7110
Facsimile: (626) 229-7452

Ms. Brenda Alcazar
Deputy City Clerk
Santa Barbara City Hall
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, California 93102

Re: El Encanto Hotel

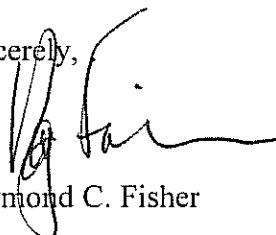
Dear Ms. Alcazar:

I understand from Mr. Filip Boyen, Vice President of Operations for the Orient-Express Hotels, that the Santa Barbara City Council will be conducting a hearing on the renovation of the El Encanto Hotel next week. Although I am not familiar with the details of the particular issues the Council will be addressing, I wanted to express our general support of the renovation and the manner in which it has been handled to date.

We own the home (at 1808 El Encanto Road) immediately to the east of the Hotel, closest to the so-called "wishing well cottage." As such, we have a strong, vested interest in the successful completion of this project to restore the Hotel to its former elegance, in a high quality, historically and aesthetically sensitive way. We have been pleased with the attention Orient-Express Hotels and particularly its on-site project manager, James Jones of Project Solutions LLC, have given to the aesthetic and comfort concerns we have raised during the course of the construction and rebuilding. We have always had a good neighbor relationship with the El Encanto Hotel and, in the expectation that relationship will continue, we look forward to the Hotel's reopening under the Orient Express banner in the near future.

Please feel free to share this letter with members of the City Council in connection with the upcoming April 28, 2009 hearing.

Sincerely,



Raymond C. Fisher

RCF/cmj

cc: Mr. Filip Boyen
Mr. James Jones